CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1383
19 February 1996

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION IN SECURITY MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

During the recent Regional Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures, the representatives of the Argentine Republic and the Republic of Chile signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Strengthening of Cooperation in Security Matters of Mutual Interest, which we attach with a request for it to be distributed as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed) Juan Carlos Sánchez Arnau
Ambassador

(Signed) Jorge Berguño Barnes
Ambassador

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION IN SECURITY MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

BEARING IN MIND the two countries' vocation for peace,

REAFFIRMING their full respect for international law and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of American States,

REAFFIRMING the commitment entered into in the 1984 Treaty of Peace and Friendship to solve their disputes by peaceful means and not to resort to the threat or the use of force,

COMMITTED to the strengthening of democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the process of regional integration and the economic and social development of their peoples,

ENDORSING the decision of the twenty-first General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Santiago, Chile, in 1991, to hold a process of consultations on security in the Americas, in the light of the new regional and world situation,

BEARING IN MIND the recommendations of the meeting of experts on measures for the strengthening of mutual trust, held in Buenos Aires in March 1994,

CONVINCED that the intensification of understanding and cooperation in security matters will make a significant contribution to cooperation between the two countries,

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of American States concerning the Register of Conventional Arms and defence expenditure,

DETERMINED to strengthen still further mutual solidarity and trust, as fundamental factors underlying the natural yearning of the peoples of Argentina and Chile for peace,

DECIDE:

1. To establish a Permanent Committee on Security whose purpose shall be to draw up a programme of work which will enable cooperation between Argentina and Chile in security matters to be enhanced.

2. The Permanent Committee on Security shall be composed of one representative of the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence, at the rank of Under-Secretary or Ambassador. Representatives of the National Defence General Staff of the Republic of Chile and the Joint General Staff of the Argentine Republic may also participate. In relevant matters, the Committee may be assisted by advisers designated by the respective authorities.

3. The Committee shall have a Secretary who will operate by means of a system of annual rotation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the two countries.

4. This Committee shall meet regularly, alternately in Argentina and Chile, at least twice a year.

5. It shall be the aim of the Committee to further the application of measures to enhance cooperation between Argentina and Chile in security matters of mutual interest, including:

A. Strengthening of channels of communication in the defence field.

B. Rapid and timely provision of information concerning those military manoeuvres which the parties agree shall be notified in advance, with encouragement given to participation by observers.

C. Fostering of academic activity which strengthens cooperation between the two countries in security matters.

DONE in Santiago, Chile, on the eighth day of November nineteen hundred and ninety-five, in two copies, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

FERNANDO ENRIQUE PETRELLA
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND LATIN AMERICAN MATTERS

RICARDO LAGORIO
UNDER-SECRETARY FOR POLICY
AND STRATEGY IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE

MARIANO FERNANDEZ AMUNATEGUI
UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PABLO CABRERA GAETE
UNDER-SECRETARY FOR THE NAVY